

Farrier's work means shoes for a horse

9-30-97
Kelly Vermeer of Knights Ferry, Calif., participates in the annual Wasatch Farriers Competition and Clinic in West Valley City, which continues Saturday. Vermeer was the only woman to enter the horseshoe-making contest. Shielded from the rain by a string of tarps, Vermeer and the other 11 farriers pounded away at several pieces of raw steel, molding them into the appropriate size and shape. For one of the events, the Wasatch Forgeathon, participants were given six hours to mold 12 different types of horseshoes from several steel strips. Farriers fervently twisted and bent the steel until they felt they could meet competition specifications. See story on Page B4.



national extension of domestic 'un-fair competition' laws, it surely possessed the ability to say so," Benson said. "But Congress chose the language it did. Fortunately for this court's present task, that language is not difficult to read or interpret."

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SCARE, PLUNGE
INTO THE
TUNNEL OF
TERROR.
WHO
KNOWS
WHAT
LURKS
1,500 FEET
UNDERGROUND?
FIND OUT
DAILY FROM
2 P.M. TO 10 P.M.,
NOON TIL 11 P.M.,
ON FRIDAYS AND
SATURDAYS.
THE TERROR
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Clang! Farriers pound raw steel into horseshoes

Annual competition in the 'lost art' brings 12 of the best to parking lot in W.V.

By Steven R. Mickelson
Deseret News staff writer

For farrier Wes Sharp, Bluffdale, horseshoeing is more than a trade or a hobby, it's an art.

"Basically, it (horseshoeing) is a lost art," Sharp said. "Being able to take a straight piece of steel, or any steel for that matter, and make something useful or pretty is what makes it all worthwhile."

Shielded from the rain by a string of tarps at the A.A. Callister Corp. parking lot, Sharp and the other 11 farriers pounded away at several pieces of raw steel, molding them into the appropriate size and shape.

They were participants in the fifth annual Wasatch Farriers Competition and Clinic in West Valley City, which continues Saturday.

For one of the events, the Wasatch Forgeathon, participants were given six hours to mold 12 different types of horseshoes from several steel strips.

Accompanied by only a mini-propane furnace and some hammers, farriers fervently twisted and bent the steel until they felt they could meet competition specifications.

The event attracted several Utahns and other Western state farriers.

Don Anglesey, the advertising coordinator for the event, says the primary goal of the event is to educate beginners and help specialists enhance their skills of hoof care.

Anglesey says the Division II participants are certified by the American Farrier Association, which requires them to meet a certain level of standards and pass tests. He says they are among the best.

U.S. Farrier Team member Jason Smith agrees. As last year's farrier champion, Smith was cho-

sen to judge this year's competition. Smith says judging isn't easy because of everyone's expertise.

"There's always a fine line you have to draw between a super nice shoe or one that's average," Smith said. "You can get lost on the finer points when you have 12 shoes you have to make. You have to find a happy-medium, but it's always surprising at how good the quality is."

"This is a tough class, if not the toughest in the competition," Smith added. "They are very talented. Beating on iron for six hours straight is a lot of work."

Anglesey said the basic ingredient for their success has been practice. Most have either learned the trade through apprenticeships or farrier schools, he said.

However, mastering the craft is trickier than it looks, he added.

"There's a lot to learn," Anglesey said. "It's a lot more than pounding the iron. A farrier can hurt a horse if it is improperly done."

Horseshoes are vital to the horse's health if they are used for purposes that are not conducive to their natural environment, he explained.

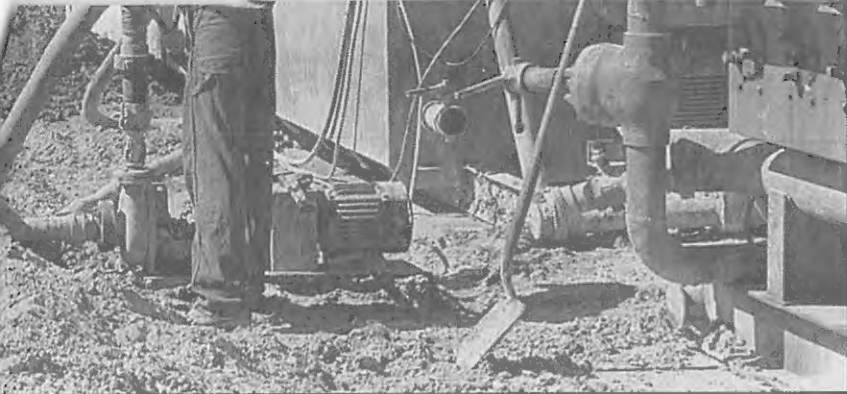
Anglesey said a shoe should be properly mounted if a horse is used for pulling heavy loads, walking on asphalt and concrete or racing. It will cripple the horse without one. Farriers have to be precise, he said.

But, that's why Sharp says he loves doing it. It's always a challenge.

"Learning is the most challenging part of it," Sharp said. "You never stop learning. You always think that you're going to get there, but you never do. There's always something new to learn."

Bobby England, Woods Cross, another participant and professional farrier also finds competing rewarding, although he admits it is also exhausting.

"It's physical. He said. "We'll all be pretty tired when this one is over with."



ment Butte oil field, where some risk their lives to strike pay dirt.

percent of a company's cost to re-work a well.

Later, in 1994, lawmakers lowered the assistance to 20 percent of the total cost — usually about \$150,000 each time a company goes back to a well — or not more than \$30,000. The tax break is set to expire June 30, 1998.

"We come to you with our hat in hand," said Lee Peacock of the Utah Petroleum Association. "This industry, while steady, has not participated in the growth the rest of the state has seen."

And while Duchesne County remains Utah's second-highest oil-producing county in the state with 31 percent of the market, and

business gritty, manual labor and the most advanced of high-tech invention. While "roughnecks" and "roustabouts" still risk injury putting the massive oil derricks to work, computer systems pass information from these wells to corporate home offices miles away.

Most lawmakers said they had no idea the expense and magnitude of equipment at sites like these. Some agreed with a quote Dyer read from a recent congressional session: "There is a perception out there with many people that gasoline comes from the filling station, our milk comes from the grocery store and our meat comes from the butcher." Montana Republican

neighborhoods and culture," Leavitt said.

To create the tribe's own system, state officials will work with Ute Social Services at Fort Duchesne. As the tribe's network is built up, the state will begin scaling back its

Young tribal members may see additional human services roles as career opportunities. It's a "win-win" situation, Leavitt said.

"I leave here with a feeling in my heart that we have done a good thing," he said.

State employees prohibited from toting weapons at work

Associated Press

Gov. Mike Leavitt's administration has prohibited state employees from carrying weapons in the workplace.

A state worker recently was temporarily suspended without pay for violating the ban, which was quietly imposed by rule last year despite its possible conflict with state law.

The law states that a citizen's concealed-weapon license is valid "without restriction" in Utah, except for airports, courts and corrections facilities.

"I know challenging this (rule), I would have won, but I don't have the resources to do it," said the em-

However, Powell contends an employer who prevents a worker from carrying a firearm becomes legally liable for a worker's injury by an assailant.

Leavitt declined comment on the no-guns rule. Spokeswoman Vicki Varela said the comments of Suzuki-Okabe would stand as the administration response.

The rule prohibiting employees from carrying firearms at work provides exceptions for peace officers, others whose jobs require firearms, legislative and judicial employees, higher-education staff members and elected officials.

The questions of legality were known from the outset and pointed out by then-Public Safety Commissioner Doug Bodrero and Leavitt's